316.770

(h) If the funding of the letter contract is to be increased to more than 50 percent of the estimated cost of the acquisition, the information required by 316.603-70(j) must be included.

Subpart 316.7—Agreements

316.770 Unauthorized types of agreements.

316.770-1 Letters of intent.

A letter of intent is an informal unauthorized agreement between the Government and a prospective contractor which indicates that products or services will be produced after completion of funding and/or other contractual formalities. Letters of intent are often solicited by prospective contractors or may be originated by Government personnel. Letters of intent are not authorized by the FAR and are prohibited for use by Department personnel.

316.770-2 Memorandums of understanding.

A "memorandum of understanding" is an unauthorized agreement, usually drafted during the course of negotiations, to modify mandatory FAR and HHSAR provisions in such a manner as to make them more acceptable to a prospective contractor. It may be used to bind the contracting officer in attempting to exercise rights given the Government under the contract, or may contain other matters directly contrary to the language of the solicitation or prospective contractual document. Use of memorandums of understanding is not authorized. Any change in a solicitation or contract shall be made by amendment or modification to that document. When a change to a prescribed contract clause is considered necessary, a deviation shall be requested.

PART 317—SPECIAL CONTRACTING METHODS

Subpart 317.2—Options

Sec. 317.201 Definition.

317.204 Contracts.

Subpart 317.71—Supply and Service Acquisitions Under the Government Employees Training Act.

317.7100 Scope of subpart.

317.7101 Applicable regulations.

317.7102 Acquisition of training.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301; 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

SOURCE: 66 FR 4244, Jan. 17, 2001, unless otherwise noted

Subpart 317.2—Options

317.201 Definitions.

An option must:

- (a) Identify the supplies or services as a discrete option quantity in addition to the basic quantity of supplies or services to be delivered under the initial contract award;
- (b) Establish a price or specify a method of calculation which will make the price certain;
- (c) Be agreed to and included in the initial contract award; and
- (d) Permit the Government the right to exercise the option unilaterally.

317.204 Contracts.

The total of the basic and option periods shall not exceed 10 years in the case of services and the total of the basic and option quantities shall not exceed the requirement for 5 years in the case of supplies. These limitations do not apply to information technology contracts. However, statutes applicable to various classes of contracts may place additional restrictions on the length of contracts.

 $[70~{\rm FR}~11583,\,{\rm Mar.}~9,\,2005]$

Subpart 317.71—Supply and Service Acquisitions Under the Government Employees Training Act

317.7100 Scope of subpart.

This subpart provides alternate methods for obtaining training under the Government Employees Training Act (GETA), 5 U.S.C. Chapter 41.

317.7101 Applicable regulations.

Basic policy, standards, and delegations of authority to approve training